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OF THE

CONVENTION

HELD WITH THE

Baptist Church at Zion Hill,

WILKES COUNTY, N. C.

November 11 and 12, 1859.

SALEM, N. C.
L. V. BLUM, PRINTER.
1859.

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PROCEEDINGS.

ZION HILL, N. C., NOVEMBER 11th, 1859.

A Convention assembled at Zion Hill Meeting-House, Wilkes County, N. C., on Friday the 11th day of November, 1859, to take into consideration the propriety of consolidating the Lewis Fork, Taylorsville and Lower Creek Associations into one body.

Elder Wm. Pool delivered a sermon, after which the Convention was called to order. And, on motion, Elder S. FERGUSON was called to the Chair, and br. P. ELLER was requested to act as Secretary, until the Convention could organize.

The Chair then explained the object of the meeting, upon which delegates from twenty-six Churches were reported, and their names enrolled as follows:

From the Lewis Fork Association.

Pilgrim Church.—A. Milliam, E. Davis, F. H. Foster.
Lewis Fork Church.—M. Walsh, L. Triplett, A. J Proffitt.
Little River Church.—Elder Wm. Pool, S. Medlock, P. Barnes.
Beaver Creek Church.—Elder J. H. Brown, Thos. Carlton, J. F. Ferguson.
Pleasant Hill Church.—J. T. Baker, B. Ellis, A. A. Jolly.
Zion Hill Church.—J. Barnes, D. Wellborn.
Three Fork Church.—Elders J. G. Bryan, J. Crouch, br. N. A. Pool.
Macedonia Church.—Wm. Teague, D. Warren, J. Martin.
New Hope Church.—Elder J. McNeil, J. H. Spainhower, P. Eller.
Walnut Grove Church.—R. Brock, C. Low.
Mt. Zion Church.—E. K. Walsh, A. B. West, W. J. Miller.

From the Lower Creek Association.

Union Church.—Elders I. Oxford, J. H. West, br. A. West.
Antioch Church.—M. Austin, D. Austin, W. S. Pool.
Dover Church.—Elder H. Holsclaw, Thos. Reid, W. R. Pennel.
King's Creek Church.—Elder E. Tilley, Thos. Isbell.

From the Taylorsville Association.

Fishing Creek Church.—H. Curtis, E. B. Salmons, S. Smith.
Taylor Spring Church.—Elder J. B. Green, A. L. Williams.
Mt. Gilead Church.—E. Ellis, R. Hines, A. A. Hines.
Taylorsville Church.—Elder S. Ferguson, E. C. Harrington, C. Jones.
Liberty Grove Church.—Elder R. L. Steele, J. Parmer, S. Harrington, Jr.
Pleasant Grove Church.—Elder H. M. Stokes, A. M. Foster.
Bethel Church.—Elders R. Gentry, A. Johnson.
Concord Church.—G. W. McIntosh, J. H. Gyder, E. Turner.
Oak Forest Church.—D. Edwards, A. M. Parkes, A. H. Martin.
Senter Church.—Elder J. Reed, E. C. Oxford, B. Reed.
Mt. Airy Church.—Elder P. Grimes.

Elder S. FERGUSON was then elected *Moderator*, and P. ELLER, *Clerk*.

Then, on motion, br. Wm. Parkes, Secretary of the Western Baptist Association, was invited to a seat in the Convention, who, after addressing the Convention in a short but appropriate address, accepted the Invitation.

On motion, a Committee of six, two from each Association, consisting of Elders R. Gentry, J. Reed, Wm. Pool, J. G. Bryan, E. Tilley, and br. H. West, was appointed to prepare business for the action of the Convention, and that they report to-morrow morning.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk were added to the Committee.

On motion, the Delegates, with the Pastor of the Zion Hill Church, were appointed a Committee on Devotional Exercise, who reported for Saturday, Elders A. Johnson, H. Holsclaw and J. McNeil.

On motion, transient ministers were invited to seats in the Convention.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder J. McNeil.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 1859.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

1. Called the roll of delegates.

2. Again invited transient ministers to seats in the Convention. Elder S. P. Smith accepted the invitation.

3. The Committee appointed on yesterday to prepare business for the action of the Convention reported;—Report received and the committee discharged.

4. Then, on motion, the Rules of Decorum in the Minutes of the Union Baptist Association were adopted for the government of the Convention, during its session.

5. The Constitution prepared by the Committee, was then presented, read and considered, section by section, and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes.

6. Took a recess for fifteen minutes.

7. Resumed business; when Rules of Decorum were presented, read and adopted.

Also the Abstract of Principles were read and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes.

8. On motion, Elders I, Oxford, E. Tilley, H. Holsclaw, J. G. Bryan, R. L. Steele, J. B. Green, J. H. Brown, J. McNeil, S. P. Smith, and S. Ferguson, were appointed a Presbytery for the purpose of ordaining Ministers and constituting Churches in the bounds of this Association, until the next annual meeting; any three of whom may be considered a sufficient number to do business,

9. On motion, Elders J. G. Bryan and S. Ferguson were appointed to visit those churches in the bounds of the Lower Creek Association which were not represented in this Convention, at least once before the next annual meeting of this Association,

10, A contribution of twenty dollars was then made up by the Convention: The Clerk was allowed five dollars for his services, and to have as many Minutes of this Convention printed as he can for the remaining fifteen dollars.

11. Appointed the next Association to be held with the Lewis Fork Church, Wilkes County, N. C., 14 miles West from Wilkesboro', to commence on Thursday before the 3rd Lord's-Day in October, 1860.

12. Appointed Elder R. Gentry to preach the Introductory sermon; Elder J. McNeil his alternate. Elder S. P. Smith to preach the Missionary sermon; Eld. J. G. Bryan his alternate.

13. The Committee on Devotional Exercise reported for Sabbath, D. Austin, R. Gentry, and J. B. Green.

Several Resolutions were presented, read and adopted.—(See Resolutions.)—After which, on motion, the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Elder J. B. Green.

S. FERGUSON, *Moderator.*

P. ELLER, *Clerk.*

ORDAINED MINISTERS.	POST OFFICES.	COUNTIES.
R. Gentry,	Gap Creek,	Ashe, N. C.
A. Johnson,	Jefferson,	" "
J. Reed,	Little River,	Alexander, "
R. L. Steele,	Taylorsville,	" "
J. G. Bryan,	"	" "
Wm. Pool,	"	" "
J. Crouch,	"	" "
P. Tritt,	"	" "
G. Swaim,	"	" "
H. Holsclaw,	"	" "

Ordained Ministers.	Post Offices.	Counties.	
S. P. Smith, - -	Wilkesborough, -	Wilkes,	N. C.
Wm. Church, -	Lewis Fork, -	"	"
S. Ferguson, - -	Warrior Creek, -	"	"
P. Grimes, - -	Trap Hill, -	"	"
L. Pipes, - -	Elkville, - -	"	"
H. M. Stokes, -	" - -	"	"
J. H. Brown, -	" - -	"	"
L. Land, - -	" - -	"	"
J. McNeil, - -	Pearlear's Creek,	"	"
A. W. Vannoy, -	" "	"	"
J. B. Green, - -	New Hope, -	Iredell,	"
E. Tilley, - -	King's Creek, -	Caldwell,	"
J. H. West, - -	Deal's Mills, -	"	"
D. Austin, - -	Little River, -	Alexander,	"
M. Austin, - -	" -	"	"
I. Oxford, - -	Deal's Mills, -	Caldwell,	"

Licentiates.	Post Offices.	Counties.	
J. B. Green, - -	Warrior Creek, -	Wilkes,	N. C.
D. Wellborn, -	" " -	"	"
J. Barnes, - -	" " -	"	"
A. B. West, - -	Elkville, - -	"	"
—— Walker, -	Warrior Creek, -	"	"
J. H. Spainhower,	Pearlear's Creek,	"	"

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.
2. We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from the fallen state which he is in, by his own ability.
4. We believe that salvation is by grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances instituted by Jesus Christ, and should be practiced by all true believers.
6. We believe the only true mode is by immersion, and that true believers are the only subjects.
7. We believe in the final perseverance of saints in grace to glory.
8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.
9. We believe that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will both be eternal.

WHEREAS the Lewis Fork, Lower Creek, and Taylorsville Associations, being met in Convention by delegates from the different Associations, at Zion Hill, for the purpose of uniting in one Association, in order to be enabled to carry out the gospel principles of Missions and Temperance, having become united as a Missionary and Temperance body, have adopted the following

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be known by the name of the UNITED BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, and shall be composed of delegates chosen by the Churches connected with it, each church being entitled to three delegates.

2. In the selection of three delegates, the churches should pay strict regard to the moral and intellectual qualifications of those appointed.

3. The delegates thus selected should bear from their respective churches a letter, certifying their appointments, and communicating information relative to the State of the church and interest thereof.

4. The Association thus formed, shall choose by ballot or otherwise, a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall continue in office for one year, and until others are elected.

5. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote, only in case of a tie, and then he shall give the casting vote.

6 There shall be a Committee of Arrangements appointed by the Moderator, consisting of five members, together with the Moderator and Clerk, and all other committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, unless otherwise ordered by the Association.

7. All letters of grievance or queries, together with all letters from corresponding Associations requiring any attention thereon, shall be submitted to the Committee of Arrangement and reported back to the Association, if they think proper.

8. This body shall have no coercive power to lord it over God's heritage, but shall only be considered as an advisory council in all matters respecting the internal regulations of the Churches. Nevertheless it becomes necessary to attend to some uniform rules of proceedings, in order to maintain our union and christian fellowship.

9. When an offence may be committed by one church against another, or when a serious difference may arise in an individual church, it shall be the duty of the Association (after due labors have been had between the offending and offended Churches, or in an individual church, as the case may be,) to take the matter into consideration and decide upon it

10. The Association shall not maintain permanent fellowship towards any of her churches which neglect to institute and preserve proper or Gospel order among their members, nor towards any of her churches and ministers that treat her Constitution with contempt, but shall sustain with all her influence such as promote Gospel principles and order.

11. This Association shall withdraw her fellowship from any church in her confederacy which holds members in fellowship who distill, vend, or use spirituous liquors as a beverage.

12. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of Christ's kingdom among men.

13. It shall be the province of this Association to invite visiting and corresponding brethren to seats, who shall be entitled to speak on any point under discussion, but not to vote.

14. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members present, and shall not adjourn until they have gone through the business of the Association, except in extraordinary cases.

15 Each Church having an ordained or licensed minister, shall report the same to the Association, in order that they may appear as such on the face of the Minutes.

16. The Association shall furnish the Churches with the Minutes of her proceedings, and it shall be the duty of the Churches to enable her to do so.

17. The Association shall have a fund created and sustained by voluntary contributions from the churches, which shall be held by the Treasurer, and subject to the disposition of a majority of the Association present at any annual session.

18. The annual session of this Association shall commence on Thursday before the 3rd Lord's-Day in October, or on any other time a majority of the members present may think proper.

19. By appointment of the Association, there shall be an Introductory Sermon preached at each annual session, and also a Missionary Sermon.

20. The power of appointing Presbyteries for the ordination of Ministers and constitution of Churches within the bounds of this district, shall be vested in this Association, any three of whom shall have power to act.

21. The Minutes of each day shall be read and corrected (if need be) on each morning, at the opening of business.

22. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time, two-thirds of the members present concurring.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At each assembling of the Association for the transaction of business, the Moderator shall invite the members to order; then the Association shall be opened by praise and prayer.

2. When the Moderator takes his chair, each member shall take his seat, and the Minutes of the preceding day shall be read.

3. The Moderator shall preserve decorum and order; may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the house by any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the house.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. All Committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, unless otherwise ordered by the body.

6. He shall have a general direction of the house ; he shall have a right to name any member to perform the duties of the Chair.

7. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate, and shall avoid personality. And when two or more rise at the same time, the Moderator is to name the one who is first to speak. No member shall speak oftener than twice on the same question, without leave of the Association

8. Whilst the Moderator is putting any question, or addressing the Association, no person shall speak, stand up, or walk out or across the house ; nor when a member is speaking, entertain private discourse, stand up or pass between him and the Chair.

9. After a motion is stated by the Moderator, or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn before a decision or amendment.

10. All papers addressed to the Association shall be presented by the Moderator.

11. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Association without leave.

12. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order ; in which case, the member so called to order shall sit down.

13. In all elections the Moderator may vote ; in other cases he shall not vote, unless the Association be equally divided.

14. These Rules of Decorum may be altered or amended, by a majority concurring.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the delegates appointed to represent the three Associations now united, in the Western Convention, and also to sister Associations, are hereby confirmed and recommended to fulfill the delegation assigned them at the last conventions of their respective Associations.

Resolved, That we recommend to the attention of the Churches of this body, the great importance of establishing and sustaining Sabbath Schools at each church, and report to the Association the number of students, number of pages and verses memorized.

Resolved, That the names and Post Offices of all the Ordained Ministers and Licentiates be entered on the Minutes of this Convention.

Resolved, That we invite all the Churches in the bounds of the Lower Creek Association, not represented in this body, to represent themselves in the next Association by delegates.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered to the citizens of this community for their kind hospitality in entertaining the delegates during the session of this Convention.

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Baptist Church at Zion Hill,

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The Chair then explained the object of the meeting, upon which delegates from twenty-six Churches were reported, and their names enrolled as follows:

From the Lewis Fork Association.

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Lewis Fork Church.—M. Walsh, L. Triplett, A. J Proffitt.
Little River Church.—Elder Wm. Pool, S. Medlock, P. Barnes.
Beaver Creek Church.—Elder J. H. Brown, Thos. Carlton, J. F. Ferguson.
Pleasant Hill Church.—J. T. Baker, B. Ellis, A. A. Jolly.
Zion Hill Church.—J. Barnes, D. Wellborn.
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Macedonia Church.—Wm. Teague, D. Warren, J. Martin.
New Hope Church.—Elder J. McNeil, J. H. Spainhower, P. Eller.
Walnut Grove Church.—R. Brock, C. Low.
Mt. Zion Church.—E. K. Walsh, A. B. West, W. J. Miller.

From the Lower Creek Association.

Union Church.—Elders I. Oxford, J. H. West, br. A. West.
Antioch Church.—M. Austin, D. Austin, W. S. Pool.
Dover Church.—Elder H. Holselaw, Thos. Reid, W. R. Pennel.
King's Creek Church.—Elder E. Tilley, Thos. Isbell.

From the Taylorsville Association.

Fishing Creek Church.—H. Curtis, E. B. Salmons, S. Smith.
Taylor Spring Church.—Elder J. B. Green, A. L. Williams.
Mt. Gilead Church.—E. Ellis, R. Hines, A. A. Hines.
Taylorsville Church.—Elder S. Ferguson, E. C. Harrington, C. Jones.
Liberty Grove Church.—Elder R. L. Steele, J. Parmer, S. Harrington, Jr.
Pleasant Grove Church.—Elder H. M. Stokes, A. M. Foster.
Bethel Church.—Elders R. Gentry, A. Johnson.
Concord Church.—G. W. McIntosh, J. H. Gyder, E. Turner.
Oak Forest Church.—D. Edwards, A. M. Parkes, A. H. Martin.
Senter Church.—Elder J. Reed, E. C. Oxford, B. Reed.
Mt. Airy Church.—Elder P. Grimes.

Elder S. Ferguson was then elected *Moderator*, and P. Eller, *Clerk*.

Then, on motion, br. Wm. Parkes, Secretary of the Western Baptist Association, was invited to a seat in the Convention, who, after addressing the Convention in a short but appropriate address, accepted the Invitation.

On motion, a Committee of six, two from each Association, consisting of Elders R. Gentry, J. Reed, Wm. Pool, J. G. Bryan, E. Tilley, and br. H. West, was appointed to prepare business for the action of the Convention, and that they report to-morrow morning.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk were added to the Committee.

On motion, the Delegates, with the Pastor of the Zion Hill Church, were appointed a Committee on Devotional Exercise, who reported for Saturday, Elders A. Johnson, H. Holsclaw and J. McNeil.

On motion, transient ministers were invited to seats in the Convention.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder J. McNeil.

Saturday, November 12th, 1859.

Met according to adjournment. Prayer by the Moderator.

1. Called the roll of delegates.

2. Again invited transient ministers to seats in the Convention. Elder S. P. Smith accepted the invitation.

3. The Committee appointed on yesterday to prepare business for the action of the Convention reported;—Report received and the committee discharged.

4. Then, on motion, the Rules of Decorum in the Minutes of the Union Baptist Association were adopted for the government of the Convention, during its session.

5. The Constitution prepared by the Committee, was then presented, read and considered, section by section, and adopted, and ordered to be printed with the Minutes.

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13. The Committee on Devotional Exercise reported for Sabbath, D. Austin, R. Gentry, and J. B. Green.

Several Resolutions were presented, read and adopted.—(See Resolutions.)—After which, on motion, the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Elder J. B. Green.

S. FERGUSON, *Moderator.*

P. ELLER, *Clerk.*

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A. Johnson, - -	Jefferson, - -	"	"
J. Reed, - -	Little River, -	Alexander,	"
R. L. Steele, - -	Taylorsville, -	"	"
J. G. Bryan, - -	" -	"	"
Wm. Pool, - -	" -	"	"
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H. Holsclaw, -	" -	"	"

Ordained Ministers.	Post Offices.	Counties.
S. P. Smith, - -	Wilkesborough, -	Wilkes, N. C.
Wm. Church, -	Lewis Fork, -	" "
S. Ferguson, - -	Warrior Creek, -	" "
P. Grimes, - -	Trap Hill, -	" "
L. Pipes, - -	Elkville, - -	" "
H. M. Stokes, -	" - -	" "
J. H. Brown, -	" - -	" "
L. Land, - -	" - -	" "
J. McNeil, - -	Pearlear's Creek,	" "
A. W. Vannoy, -	" "	" "
J. B. Green, - -	New Hope, -	Iredell, "
E. Tilley, - -	King's Creek, -	Caldwell, "
J. H. West, - -	Deal's Mills, -	" "
D. Austin, - -	Little River, -	Alexander, "
M. Austin, - -	" -	" "
I. Oxford, - -	Deal's Mills, -	Caldwell, "

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J. B. Green, - -	Warrior Creek, -	Wilkes, N. C.
D. Wellborn, -	" " -	" "
J. Barnes, - -	" " -	" "
A. B. West, - -	Elkville, - -	" "
—— Walker, -	Warrior Creek, -	" "
J. H. Spainhower,	Pearlear's Creek,	" "

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.
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19. By appointment of the Association, there shall be an Introductory Sermon preached at each annual session, and also a Missionary Sermon.

20. The power of appointing Presbyteries for the ordination of Ministers and constitution of Churches within the bounds of this district, shall be vested in this Association, any three of whom shall have power to act.

21. The Minutes of each day shall be read and corrected (if need be) on each morning, at the opening of business.

22. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time, two-thirds of the members present concurring.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At each assembling of the Association for the transaction of business, the Moderator shall invite the members to order; then the Association shall be opened by praise and prayer.

2. When the Moderator takes his chair, each member shall take his seat, and the Minutes of the preceding day shall be read.

3. The Moderator shall preserve decorum and order; may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the house by any member, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once unless by leave of the house.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. All Committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, unless otherwise ordered by the body.

6. He shall have a general direction of the house; he shall have a right to name any member to perform the duties of the Chair.

7. When any member is about to speak in debate, or deliver any matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat and respectfully address himself to the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate, and shall avoid personality. And when two or more rise at the same time, the Moderator is to name the one who is first to speak. No member shall speak oftener than twice on the same question, without leave of the Association

8. Whilst the Moderator is putting any question, or addressing the Association, no person shall speak, stand up, or walk out or across the house; nor when a member is speaking, entertain private discourse, stand up, or pass between him and the Chair.

9. After a motion is stated by the Moderator, or read by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn before a decision or amendment.

10. All papers addressed to the Association shall be presented by the Moderator.

11. No member shall absent himself from the service of the Association without leave.

12. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order; in which case, the member so called to order shall sit down.

13. In all elections the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote, unless the Association be equally divided.

14. These Rules of Decorum may be altered or amended, by a majority concurring.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the delegates appointed to represent the three Associations now united, in the Western Convention, and also to sister Associations, are hereby confirmed and recommended to fulfill the delegation assigned them at the last conventions of their respective Associations.

Resolved, That we recommend to the attention of the Churches of this body, the great importance of establishing and sustaining Sabbath Schools at each church, and report to the Association the number of students, number of pages and verses memorized.

Resolved, That the names and Post Offices of all the Ordained Ministers and Licentiates be entered on the Minutes of this Convention.

Resolved, That we invite all the Churches in the bounds of the Lower Creek Association, not represented in this body, to represent themselves in the next Association by delegates.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due, and are hereby tendered to the citizens of this community for their kind hospitality in entertaining the delegates during the session of this Convention.